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AUG 11 2004

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

KIMURA, Y. et al.

Atty. Ref.: 427-89

Serial No. 10/810,847

TC/A.U.: 1725

Filed: March 29, 2004

Examiner:

For: WELDING SHIELD GAS AND WELDING METHOD

\* \* \* \* \*

August 11, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Attention is invited to the attached copy of a European Search Report mailed July 22, 2004 with respect to this disclosure and a copy of each document cited in it. A completed Form PTO-1449 is also attached.

Official citation and consideration of all the attached documents is requested.

Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

For purposes of adjustment of patent term, each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in Section 1.56(c) more than 30 days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained herein was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months from the filing date of this statement [see 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (1)].

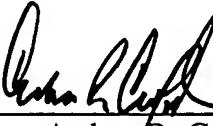
The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or

is considered to be, material to patentability [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) & (h)] or that no other material information exists.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 14-1140 for any fees required in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

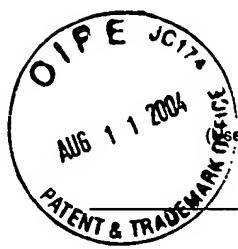
Respectfully submitted,

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## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

427-89

10/810,847

**APPLICANT**

KIMURA, Y. et al.

**FILING DATE**

TC/A.U.

March 29, 2004

1725

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)**

### Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.